continue to be under the direct administrative control of AIR.

(c) At present, there is no proposal to redefine the role and functions of the AIR correspondents as an independent news organisation.

Freedom Fighters' Pension Cases

3895. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Union Government have rejected about 150 cases of pensions to freedom fighters which were cleared by the former Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of such rejections Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). No, Sir. 34 cases cleared by the former Government have been reviewed by the new Government. Of these, so far, only 3 cases pertaining to Bihar have been rejected. The earlier decision to sanction pension could not be sustained as the eligibility criteria were not met.

Arrest of Pakistani Nationals

3896. SHRI HARIBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Pakistani nationals were arrested at Meerut in Uttar Pradesh on November 14,1 991 for alleged spying;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a protest in this regard has been lodged with Pakistan authorities; and

(d) the number of cases of such activities of Pakistani spies that have come to light during 1.1.1990 to 15.11.1191 and the action taken by the Government against each such case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) No Pakistani national was arrested at Meerut in Uttar Pradesh on 14.11.1191. However, a national of another country was apprehended on that date at Meerut.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) According to available information, 30 cases of espionage/suspected espionage have come to notice during the period 1.1.1990 to 15.11.1991. Action in such cases is taken according to the law.

Post Offices in Tikamgarh and Chattarpur Districts

3897. KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no Post Office in the districts of Tikamgarh and Chattarpur;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to open at least one post office in each village; and

(d) if so, by what time?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The existing postal network in these districts is as hereunder:-